


REMARKS



In the statement of the reasons for allowance mailed September 23, 2004 (Paper No. 2004091), the Examiner provided a statement for reasons of allowance that fails to comply with MPEP 1304.14, in that it fails to include 1) the major difference in the claims not found in the prior art, and 2) the reasons why that difference is considered to define patentability over the prior art, nor has the Examiner explained why the reasons for allowance are not clear in the record. The Examiner has merely selected one of the independent claims and recited that as the reason for allowance, but the Applicants note that the other independent claims are of different scope, and that this is a first office action allowance. As such, Applicants note that all allowed claims should be given their broadest possible construction, following the patent office rules that the Examiner should give the claims their broadest possible construction when being examined. Likewise, all elements of all claims should be given the full range of equivalents.

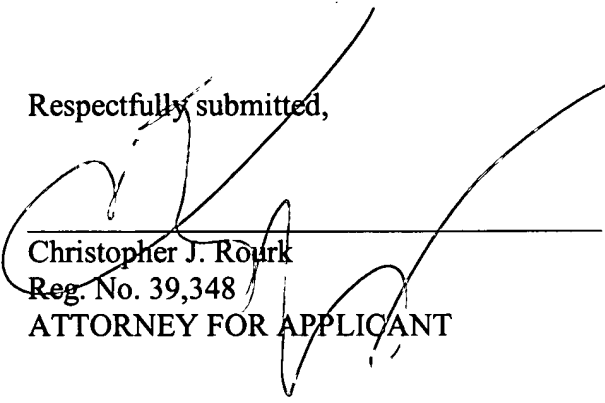
CONCLUSION

The Issue Fee transmittal and a check in the amount of \$1015.00 is enclosed.

If any applicable fee or refund has been overlooked, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee or credit any refund to the deposit account of Godwin Gruber LLP, No. 500530.

Respectfully submitted,

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